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S/N 10/700098

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	TANAKA et al.	Examiner:	HODGE
Serial No.:	10/700098	Group Art Unit:	1795
Filed:	November 3, 2003	Docket No.:	10873.1321US01
Title:	FUEL CELL		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 31, 2008.

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114

In response to the final Office Action mailed March 17, 2008, with the time for response extended with a two-month extension of time from June 17, 2008 to August 17, 2008, please enter and consider the following remarks in the above-identified application along with the Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently herewith.

No amendment is made in this communication. Claims 1-7, 10-13, 16, 19, and 20 are pending.

Turning to the substance of the Office Action, claims 1-7, 10-13, 16, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gyoten et al. (US 6746793), in view of Stonehart et al. (US 5523181). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection to the extent it is maintained.

Claim 1 is directed to a fuel cell including a catalyst layer having a mixture of catalyst particles and other particles selected from at least one of a list of inorganic particles. The catalyst layer is obtained by chemically bonding a molecule comprising an ion-conducting functional group serving as an electrolyte to a surface of the other inorganic particles and then mixing the other inorganic particles and the catalyst particles.